

Objective #2: Find the Evidence

Tasha'Vel scuttled across one of the Hanger bays that housed one of The Collective ships. She had heard of the recent accusation in which The Collective had successfully framed The Brotherhood and sent the Severian Principate into a confused chaos of strained negotiations. In order to pull off this stunt, they disguised one of their ships to look exactly like The Brotherhood's Iron Legion.

"I know they must have used some sort of holo emitter to project a false image onto the ship, otherwise, they wouldn't have so easily stripped off a paint job. I am going to find this holo projector and show it to the Principate. Surely they will believe us after I give them solid proof that we did no such attack on their ships."

Her plan was simple: sneak into the bay, steal the holo projector and get out before The Collective caught on. Now executing that plan is a whole different matter. She was able to locate the Hanger that held one of the ships used in the staged attack. As she peered inside one of the small windows by the doors, she could see that getting into the ship wouldn't be an easy task. There were several Collective members outside that seemed to be guarding. Unfortunately, she did not possess the power of The Force that would be able to shield her from the prying eyes of the guards, instead she needed to create a distraction before she could slip inside the hanger. Thinking carefully, she could see there were some barrels across the hanger on the opposite side of the ship. Smiling slightly, she concentrated a bit on one of the barrels and began to lift it slightly before sending it flying away to the far end of the bay and causing a horrible crashing noise as it barreled into the wall. Immediately, the guards took notice and started to walk towards the barrel. Taking this opportunity, Tasha quickly opened the door and dashed inside the hangar, taking care to get to the ship while the cargo door was still open. She knew there wasn't much time before they would return and she had to give it everything. Using the force, she propelled herself forward almost becoming a blackish blur as she ran up the ramp and into the cargo hold.

"Hopefully with luck they didn't see me." She thought as she caught her breath a minute before searching the hold for another door deeper inside the ship.

"Bingo," She opened a door to the right and went inside. As she went down the corridor, she could see a security office nearby. Walking inside, she could see a chair and a terminal. Cracking her knuckles, Tasha'Vel sat down and turned on the terminal.

"Password please." The computer chirped.

"Well frak, wait-hello what is this?" As she placed her hand down, she ran across a piece of paper. On the side someone had written the word 'Cephus' on it.

She entered the password.

“Password accepted.” The terminal blinked and then proceeded to show a record of logs. As Tasha scrolled through them, she found a recording of a conversation between one of the Collective leaders and their subordinates.

“I want you to make sure this ship looks exactly like the Brotherhood’s Iron Legion. We have to make it look like an exact copy, if we are going to frame them. Once you finish, prepare it for flight and shoot at one of the Severian Principate’s vessels. The sooner you get it done, the sooner The Brotherhood loses the chance to gain an ally.”

“Music to my ears,” Tasha’Vel smiled as she downloaded the holo recording onto her datapad.

She then logged out of the terminal and made her way back to the cargo hold. As she began to descend down the ramp, she could see several of the guards approaching.

Thinking quickly, she concentrated again and pushed one of the cargo boxes into the guards as she ran out of the hangar. She didn’t even look behind her as she bolted out as fast as she could muster. Time was of the essence as she soon heard several shouting Collective guards.

Outside the hangar, she continued down a corridor and made her way towards another room as she dialed Simonetti. “I have a really good piece of evidence that I think you should show our Severian Principate friends. It details how they disguised one of their ships to look like ours. I am sending you the recording now as I don’t have much time before I am tracked down by The Collective, Good luck and may the Force be with you.”

She then transferred the recording over as she saw several Collective soldiers approaching. Grinning evilly, she looked at all of them.

“You are too late.”